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ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED/FOIA EXEMPT

Dear Stephen:

I would like to request the following information please:

1) On September 17, 2013 U.S. Congressman Steve Womack's Projects Director Kyle Weaver wrote to EPA Region 6 Congressional Liaison LaWanda Thomas regarding Arkwood's "Site Score of 28.95 on the Hazard Ranking System" (please see attached):

"Additionally, I find that the Arkwood site has the lowest Site Score for all Final NPL sites currently in EPA Region 6."

Can you confirm that this statement was correct at that time and whether it is still the case? What are all the other "Final NPL" sites in Region 6 and their Hazard Ranking System "scores"?

Your Query:

Can you confirm that this statement was correct at that time and whether it is still the case?

EPA RESPONSE:

The above-quoted statement was proffered by Kyle Weaver, Office of U.S. Congressman Steve Womack in a September 17, 2013 email to former Region 6 Congressional Liaison LaWanda Thomas. The EPA is unaware of the source for Mr. Weaver's statement. Moreover, Mr. Weaver's statement is his opinion, the accuracy which the EPA can neither confirm nor deny.

Your Query:

What are all the other "Final NPL" sites in Region 6 and their Hazard Ranking System "scores"?

EPA RESPONSE:

The Final National Priorities List (NPL) sites is publicly available and can be found at 40 CFR part 300, Appendix B. In addition, please find attached a link for the listing of the Final NPL sites on EPA's website - <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/query/queryhtm/nplfinal.htm>.

The Hazard Ranking System (HRS) is the principal mechanism EPA uses to place uncontrolled waste sites on the National Priorities List (NPL). It is a numerically based screening system that uses information from initial, limited investigations - the preliminary assessment and the site inspection - to assess the relative potential of sites to pose a threat to human health or the environment. Any person or organization can petition EPA to conduct a preliminary assessment using the Preliminary Assessment Petition (PDF) (4 pp, 485 K, About PDF).



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because the information collected to develop HRS scores is not sufficient to determine either the extent of contamination or the appropriate response for a particular site. The sites with the highest scores do not necessarily come to the EPA's attention first

Hazard Ranking Scores for Superfund sites require screening, and, as appropriate, declassification, if publication is determined appropriate, the EPA is unable to respond to transmit HRS scores.

2) Could EPA Region 6 Superfund summarize Arkwood's status in a one- or two-page précis that includes (but is not necessarily limited to) EPA's current position on the site with regard to: a) its prospects for future industrial use; b) the major steps planned to help realize those prospects or to rule them out, with timeline; c) the risk the site poses to human health and the environment; and d) remaining milestones that must be achieved before the site can be proposed for deletion from NPL, with timeline?

3) Sometime between September 17, 2013 and September 30, 2013, EPA Region 6 Congressional Liaison LaWanda Thomas provided responses to U.S. Congressman Steve Womack's Projects Director Kyle Weaver's inquiry (please see attached) which included the following statement:

"Arkwood can return to productive use at any time, provided that the remedy is not compromised. The remedy that cannot be compromised consists of addressing the soil and groundwater to numerical cleanup goals as specified in the 1990 Record of Decision (and to be updated with the dioxin re-evaluation) and institutional controls."

Could EPA please clarify and expand upon this statement?

4) On October 28, 2013 U.S. Congressman Steve Womack's Projects Director Kyle Weaver wrote to me (please see attached):

"Congressman Womack's office noted to the EPA that this is an ongoing issue despite nearly 25 years working on it. Our office was assured that EPA is making an effort to expedite clean-up to reach the point of deletion from the NPL. Their response to our inquiry specifically said, 'This site is one of the earliest sites nationwide going through dioxin re-evaluation. EPA will work closely with the landowner, McKesson Corporation, and ADEQ to expedite the cleanup process.'"

Can EPA confirm that the above assessment was an accurate characterization of EPA's intent with regard to Arkwood at the time of Mr. Weaver's writing? If so, has that intent changed since

the time of Mr. Weaver's writing? Could EPA please reiterate and update its current position with regard to Mr. Weaver's questions and concerns contained in the full text of the Congressional inquiry and with reference to EPA responses from Ms. Thomas, as attached hereto?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Curt